

RECORD KEEPING AND TRAP MAINTENANCE

Detailed trapping information is generally kept on trap cards, samples of which are shown on pages xvi, xvii and xviii. A good trap card includes the following information:

1. Identity of each trap as to type, with a unique trap number based on the square mile grid system.
2. The exact location of trap, i.e., county, city, address, and location on property.
3. A history of trap servicing, including dates, inspector, relocations, and samples submitted.

When recording information, give close attention to the following details:

1. Always use pencil to record information.
2. Include a written description of the location of the trap on the property. A more detailed description will be needed for those locations that are not easily found or for unusual circumstances (i.e., dogs).
3. Draw property diagram maps with "north" ↑ toward the top border. Indicate north on each map with an "N."
4. Label the street name where trap is placed, as well as at least one close cross street. Always denote "street," "drive," "avenue," etc.
5. Always denote the city.
6. Sketch recognizable structures on property chosen for trapping.
7. Sketch recognizable landmark structures and note distances in undeveloped areas, or when an address is not available.
8. Name the host and mark its approximate location on the property.
9. Record trap information immediately after servicing. Do not wait until a later time.
10. Maintain a host list of up to 100 sites per square mile for relocation and delimitation purposes. The trap card (Form 60-202) can suffice for this purpose.
11. Trap cards should be arranged in separate, single-day routes and in an efficient driving order.

RECORD KEEPING AND TRAP MAINTENANCE MISTAKES

Experience in trapping programs has shown the following to be common mistakes:

Trap Cards:

1. Lack of neatness and clarity.
2. Incorrect designation of north (N) on trap cards.
3. Square mile grid number does not correspond to trap number on trap card. Watch out for transposing numbers.
4. Incorrect or omission of location letter or number in the map column or row, i.e., A, B, C, D, etc.
5. Stapling one card to another. If cards separate, a complete record is not on one card.
6. Failure to write a complete address. Include house number if available. Do not say "Between address A and address B." Find out which property the tree is on.
7. Incorrect name of city.

Inserts (Jackson trap only):

1. Number on trap does not correspond to number on insert.
2. Melon fly and Oriental fruit fly trap inserts are not designated with an "ML" or an "OF" to distinguish them from Medfly trap inserts.
3. Date of insert placement is not marked.
4. Inserts are not replaced often enough. They should be replaced after one month, or sooner if needed.

Traps:

1. Failure to mark trap number, placement date, servicing dates, and an indication of when previous rebaiting occurred, if applicable.
2. Failure to rewrite a trap number that has faded. This problem is alleviated by using permanent ink markers, i.e., black Sharpie pen.
3. Failure to replace the Jackson trap body when all space for servicing dates is used, or when trap bodies become soft due to weathering.
4. Failure to replace contaminated traps.
5. Failure to number and date Pherocon AM traps. Write the trap number and date of placement on the non-sticky side of the trap. Servicing date can be placed on border of sticky side.